

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

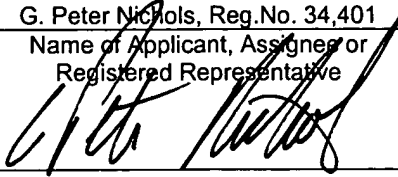
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

January 14, 2004

Date of Deposit

G. Peter Nichols, Reg.No. 34,401

Name of Applicant, Assignee or  
Registered Representative



Signature

January 14, 2004

Date of Signature

Our Case No.: 10908/8

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Chris Andre Du Plessis

Serial No.: not yet assigned

Filing Date: January 14, 2004

For: RECOVERY OF BIOLEACHING  
MICROBES

Examiner: not yet assigned

Group Art Unit No.: not yet assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The references now cited are the following:

**Foreign Patent Document**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>
WO 02/42504 A2	30/05/2002	WIPO

**Other Art Reference**

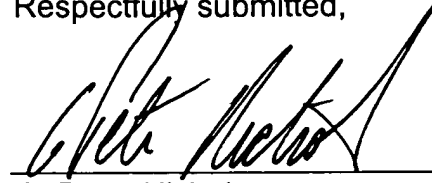
<b>OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENT</b> (Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item(book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published)
S.T.L. Harrison and J.J. Cilliers, XP-001117795 "The Use of Mini-Hydrocyclones for Differential Separations within Mineral Slurries Subjected to Bioleaching", <i>Minerals Engineering</i> , 1997, Vol. 10, pp. 559-535, Elsevier Science Ltd., Great Britain.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Peter Nichols', is written over a horizontal line.

G. Peter Nichols  
Registration No. 34,401  
Attorney for Applicant

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. Box 10395  
Chicago, IL 60610  
(312) 321-4200

FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. not yet assigned	CASE NO. 10908/8
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE January 14, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT not yet assigned
(use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT: Chris Andre Du Plessis	

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A1	WO 02/42504 A2	30/05/2002	WIPO		Yes

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS <small>(Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)</small>	
	A2	S.T.L. Harrison and J.J. Cilliers, XP-001117795 "The Use of Mini-Hydrocyclones for Differential Separations within Mineral Slurries Subjected to Bioleaching", <i>Minerals Engineering</i> , 1997, Vol. 10, pp. 559-535, Elsevier Science Ltd., Great Britain.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.